



10/676,136

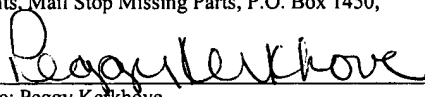
PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant:	INOKUMA, et al.	Examiner:	Unknown
Serial No.:	10/676,136	Group Art Unit:	2811
Filed:	September 30, 2003	Docket No.:	10873.1319US01
Title:	SOLID STATE IMAGING DEVICE AND EQUIPMENT USING THE SAME		

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8:

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, with sufficient postage, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Missing Parts, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on January 9, 2004.

By:   
Name: Peggy Kerkhove

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b))

Mail Stop Missing Parts

Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

With regard to the above-identified application, the items of information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 are brought to the attention of the Examiner.

This statement should be considered because it is submitted before the mailing date of a first Office Action on-the-merits. Accordingly, no fee is due for consideration of the items listed on the enclosed Form 1449.

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(2), a copy of each document or other information listed on the enclosed Form 1449 is provided.

A concise explanation of the relevance of each non-English language document or other information is as follows (37 C.F.R. §1.98(a)(3)):

An English abstract has been provided for the Japanese reference.

No representation is made that a reference is "prior art" within the meaning of 35 U.S.C. §§ 102 and 103 and Applicants reserve the right, pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.131 or otherwise, to establish that the reference(s) are not "prior art." Moreover, Applicants do not represent that a

reference has been thoroughly reviewed or that any relevance of any portion of a reference is intended.

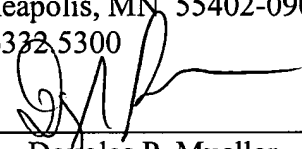
Consideration of the items listed is respectfully requested. Pursuant to the provisions of M.P.E.P. 609, it is requested that the Examiner return a copy of the attached Form 1449, marked as being considered and initialed by the Examiner, to the undersigned with the next official communication.

Please charge any additional fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 13-2725.

Respectfully submitted,

MERCHANT & GOULD P.C.  
P.O. Box 2903  
Minneapolis, MN 55402-0903  
(612)332-5300

Dated: January 9, 2004

By:   
Douglas P. Mueller  
Reg. No. 30,300

DPM/pjk



FORM 1449\*

## INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number:

10873.1319US01

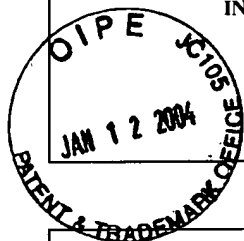
Application Number:

10/676,136

Applicant: INOKUMA, et al.

Filing Date: September 30,  
2003

Group Art Unit: 2811



## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	5,952,714	Sept., 1999	Sano, et al.			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

	DOCUMENT NO.	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
						YES	NO
	5-268535	Oct., 1993	Japan			Abstract	

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


23552

PATENT TRADEMARK OFFICE

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form for next communication to the Applicant.